

CITY COLLEGE GAINS 3-WEAPON HONORS

**Lavender Fencers Earn Team
Title for the First Time
—N. Y. U. 2d, Navy 3d**

By **LINCOLN A. WERDEN**

For the first time in intercollegiate fencing history the City College team swept off with the three-weapon championship yesterday at the conclusion of the two-day session at the Sixty-ninth Regiment Armory, winning on a total of 62 points.

By virtue of their splendid work in the foil division, which accounted for the "little iron man" trophy, oldest of all college trophies, the wearers of the Lavender emblem captured the chief laurels in the fifty-first annual tourney that was revived this year after a lapse since 1943.

While the saber bouts, which concluded the team program, were still being staged and it was becoming evident that the three-weapon crown would go to City, the team members crowded about their English-born coach, James Montague, to shake his hand and offer him their personal thanks for the part they attributed to him in the unique triumph for their college in this sport.

One Point Over Navy

Second to City was N. Y. U.'s team in the three-weapon race with a total of 59. The Violets, dominant figures in these championships in the span from 1935 to 1942 when they lost only once, were in second place by one point over Navy, the defending champion. The Midshipmen accounted for the épée and saber team titles, but they bogged down in the foil contest.

The Navy strength was shown in the saber tests when the Midshipmen tallied 26, following their victory with the dueling sword

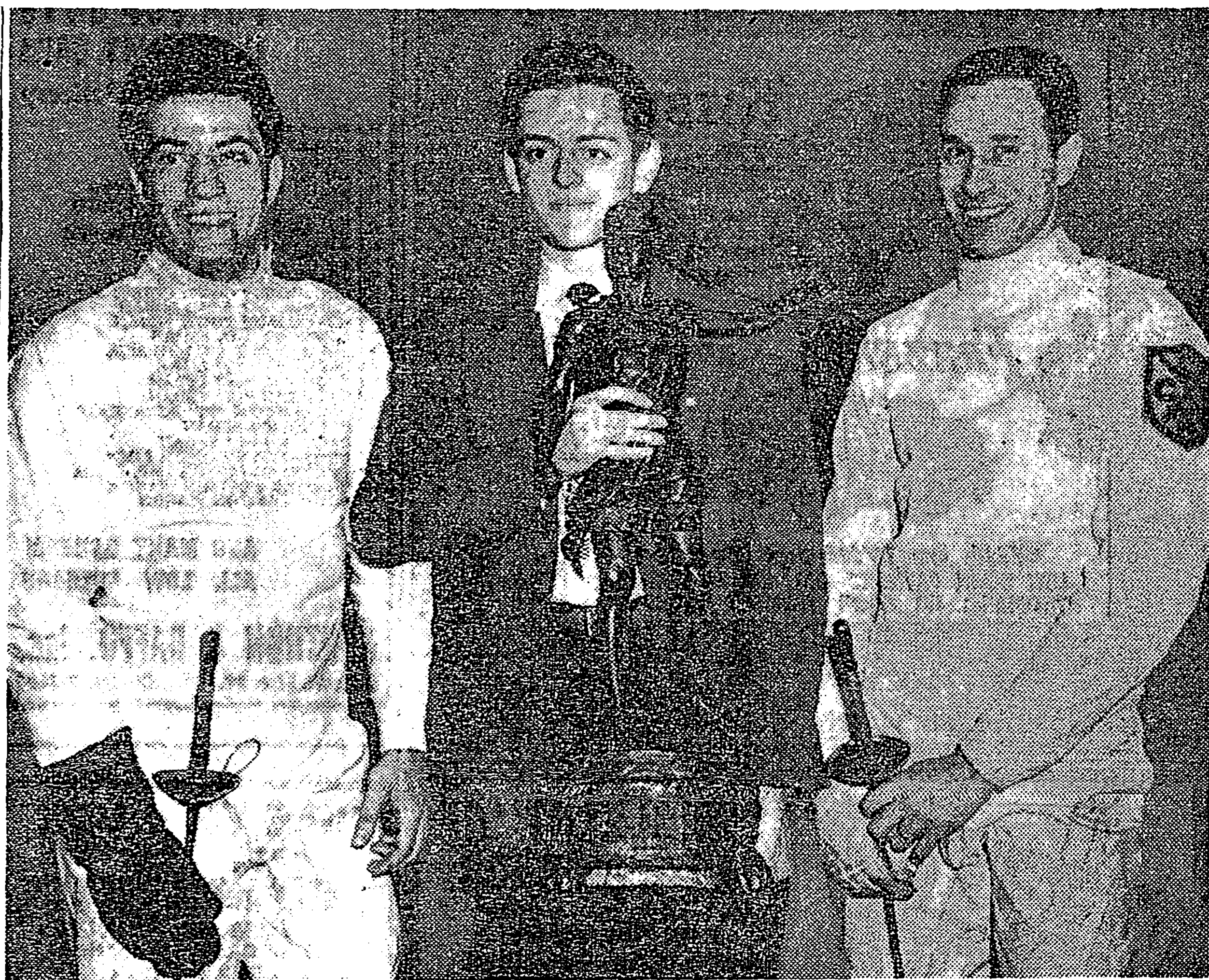
Continued on Page 5, Column 2

The New York Times

Published: March 21, 1948

Copyright © The New York Times

WINNERS WITH OLDEST INTERCOLLEGIATE TROPHY



Members of the C. C. N. Y. foil team with the "Iron Man" award, originally donated by the Racquet and Tennis Club in 1894. Left to right: Frank Billadello, Bert Gedzelman and Albert Axelrod.

The New York Times

C. C. N. Y. Annexes 3-Weapon Title For First Time in College Fencing

Continued From Page One

during which they picked up 20 points and the team honors.

Following the Annapolis representatives in the three-weapon standing came Army, whose best showing was made in the foil events, with a total of 49 that tied Cornell, while Harvard was next with 36. M. I. T., Yale, Rutgers, Columbia and Princeton followed in that order.

City College's stalwart yesterday proved to be Capt. Albert Axelrod, now 27 years old, who is completing his final year as an undergraduate and who was a Navy radio technician during the war. The 6-footer, who is an Olympic prospect because of his showing in the first trials, went through unbeaten with the foil, winning all ten bouts.

Scores Individual Sweep

City's other individual sweep was credited to Abe Cohen, who followed the example of his team captain by going into the saber competition and defeating each of his ten opponents.

Axelrod and Cohen also did commendable work in the epee to account for 13 points or bouts with this weapon that proved important in the ultimate three-weapon team score.

Also outstanding was Bob Kaplan. The N. Y. U. captain was the only other besides Axelrod to turn in a flawless foil performance.

In the saber, Cohen's sweep was matched by that of the Navy captain, Jim Day,

There were more laurels for Axelrod before the prolonged evening phase was completed. After finishing second in the individual épée tests, he emerged triumphant in the foil round-robin of six qualifiers, going through undefeated once more.

Praise for Axelrod

Watching Axelrod finish his successful bid for the foil championship, Miguel de Capriles, Law Professor at N. Y. U. and chairman of the bout committee, praised the City College star by saying "he's scoring on authoritative touches. There's no doubt about any of them and his speed and finish are magnificent."

Second to Axelrod was N. Y. U.'s Kaplan, and third was Frank Billadello of City College.

Kaplan was the lone defending titleholder in the individual tests. He won with the foil back in 1943. During the war Kaplan was an Air Corps pilot and he had hoped to retain the foil honors. Instead, he triumphed in the épée, in which Dick Bowman of Army placed third behind Axelrod.

The saber championship went to Day. The Navy captain, who hails from Natchez, Miss., had a spectacular bout en route to the ultimate fence-off when he trailed Isidore Rubinstein of N. Y. U. by 0-4, rallying to win, 5-4.

Day had to turn back his teammate Ed Stacy in the bout that brought him the title, while the other Navy qualifier, Bill Barton, was third.

The New York Times

Published: March 21, 1948

Copyright © The New York Times